

# NEW KIWI AUTHOR LAUNCHES HER FIRST CHILDREN'S BOOK 'THANK YOU FOR FEEDING FRECKLE'

Reading with a ruler was the only way Cheyney McDonnell could keep her eyes in place when looking at a book. Diagnosed with Irlen Syndrome - which is a perceptual processing disorder - her eyes jumped around the page (they still do) and it made reading difficult.

But she wasn't allowed a ruler at school, so would always choose the interactive books to get around having to 'read'. And Cheyney's first children's book 'Thank you for feeding Freckle' has been designed with a younger version of herself in mind.

"Reading is important but it isn't always enjoyable for children for various reasons. I wanted to create a book with lots of visuals and activities to keep young readers engaged and included. 'Thank you for feeding Freckle' is filled with bright, simple images, questions, and fun peek-a-boo flaps. Suitable for children between two and six years old."

The idea for the story itself came from a personal experience feeding a friend's grey cat (called Minnie), but she first put the graphics together, before adding the story.

Getting the book to print wasn't an easy process and after exhausting all of her options in New Zealand, Cheyney sent it offshore to Australia, where Five Mile picked it up. And while having it printed locally would have been fantastic, she is just so thrilled to have it finally in the hands of little ones here and across the Tasman.

Presales took off during lockdown, with first copies of the books landing in the country June 2020, and nationwide retailer Whitcoulls has now confirmed they will be stocking the book in their stores/online.

## THE REVIEWS ARE IN:

*"This delightful interactive book is cleverly written and beautifully illustrated. My nearly 3 year old daughter is obsessed. We have read it at least six times and we only received it yesterday!"*

*"Knox LOVES this book. We read it twice in a row when we got it today and he's asked for it again before bed tonight. Without me even asking he said 'I like helping Freckle, I've never helped a cat before.'"*

*"Cooper loves his new book! He literally just made me read it five times in a row. Think his favourite part was opening the door and turning the lights on with a clap."*



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